# AROMAS AIR

Volume I, Issue 4 December 19, 1975

## AIR CURRENTS

Up until now, the AIR has been a sort of public forum, but beginning the New Year, it is ready to grow. New needs arise every day and to meet them, new people arrive on the scene. The AIR has several roving reporters and special interest columnists gathering information. Bake sales and contributions made it possible to pay our debt to Aromas School for printing costs. We received $53.88. Since AIR mailing costs are in excess of that amount, we will have to try another approach at circulating the AIR further. We may set up newspaper boxes at the Post Office Marshall's Grocery, and the Adobe Kitchen, asking a nickel contribution per copy. If you have other ideas, please let them be known.

In this issue, you will note we have contributions from several (R)AIR reporters. The AIR encourages a variety of viewpoints and subject matter. Since we are all volunteers, we can have fun at this and do it "our" way! Creativity will never be stifled; the worth of each individual personality and his or her gift will be emphasized. AROMAS AIR welcomes any special stories, editorials, quips, quotes, interviews, humor (the AIR STRIP will appear next time), typing, printers, printing equipment, or money. The AIR's a way to express yourself: your needs, your hopes for the future, your appreciation, your sense of beauty, justice, and your spirit of giving.

Carole Jones, P.O. Box 582, Aromas
AROMAS AIR-ess

## COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB

The first meeting of the Aromas Service Club will be held Monday, January 5, 1976 at 7:30 P.M. in the home of Larry and Carole Jones, 3580 Viola Drive, 724-0588. Proposed activities include: Aromas Directory, Saturday movies, purchasing a bus, providing a body politic to lobby for Aromas needs, welcoming newcomers, providing emergency homes in case of fire or other crises, provide an exchange outlet for clothing and equipment, providing a bistro with live music and light foods, providing an outlet for Aromas crafts and handiwork, assist the playground committee, encourage recreation, foster the newspaper, etc. etc. etc. Let's put our heads together and join forces!

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL SERVICE

Community Members: After Christmas vacation, classes will be available at Aromas School for all people interested in children and in school programs. Suggested topics of discussion are discipline, reading methods, how schools have changed, and modern math. Date of first meeting to be announced.

Barbara Morales, Coordinator
724-6879

Padres de familia: Despues de los vacciones, tendremos clases en la escuela para padres de familia y personas interesadas en como pueden ayudar los ninos en la escuela. Se puede explicar el proceso de educacion que estan implementande en el condado de Santa Cruz y en Aromas. Tambien, se puede discutir conducta de los ninos y problemas que tienen los alumnos en la escuela. Las clases sean bi-lingue.

Barbara Morales, Coordinadora
724-6879

MOTHERS WITH PRESCHOOLERS: Attend the story-hour at the Aromas Branch Library. 10:30 A.M. on Thursdays. Several mothers in attendance agree that more activity for the preschooler and socializing for the mothers are in order. Let's get together Tuesday morning, January 6 at around 10:00 A.M. at the Jones', 3580 Viola Drive, 724-0588. Call or come over any other time as well!

WORKSHOPS

THE CHILD: INDIVIDUAL IN A GROUP ENVIRONMENT, Saturdays from 8:30 - 4:30 P.M. January 10,"Movement and Physical Education" by Rudy Benton fron San Jose; February 21,"Language and Thinking Strategies" by Marilyn Bramley of Riverside; March 13, "Creative Drama and Puppetry" by Pacific Coast Performing Arts; and April 24, "Learning Through Experience" by Ken Larsen, Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

Registration will take place at each session. A 50¢ fee will be requested. If you wish college credit from Cabrillo College, UCSC Extension, or San Jose State Extension, call Libby Balter at 425-6354 or 688-3024.

SOUTH ZONE WORKSHOPS: Article 3.3 is a state regulation which requires the school district to establish inservice training programs in the history, cultural and current problems of racial and ethnic minorities for those schools within the district that have a twenty-five percent or more minority attendance.

The minimum days and workshops will be as follows for all certificated staff. Children will be coming home at 1:00 P.M. on the following days: January 8, 1976, A) Bilingual Ed. What it is and what it is not, B) History and contributions of Pacific people to the U.S., C) Cognitive learning styles of Mexican-American children: January 15, 1976, A) Classroom ideas for celebrating Mexican holidays, B) Spanish for school use - beginning, intermediate, and advanced, C) Influence of cultural patterns on children's learning and behavior; January 22, 1976, A) Demonstration of Mexican Folkdancing, B) Resources for teaching Spanish-speaking children, C) Mexican contributions to U.S. history and culture (by Duane Peterson, Principal, Aromas)

SALINAS WORKSHOP by Kathy Sinacori, Carr Avenue, 724-1945

A parent advisory workshop was held December 13, 1975 at Alisal High School in Salinas. Dr. John C. Griffin, Salinas Union High School District Director of Compensatory Education, made the opening statements and introductions. Erleen Blankenship, CACE (Calif. Assoc. of Compensatory Education) State Representative, traced the growth of CACE and its current status. The program developed from recognition of the need to individualize education more and to make up for deficiencies in the past. Prior to the birth of CACE, advisory groups had never been legislated. Originally, administrators made sure the legislature supported them, but the success of this program is due in large part to the dedicated efforts of concerned parents. It was pointed out that the days are gone when parents come to school only when something is wrong.

Early Childhood Education (ECE) is a part of CACE. Aromas School has ECE funding which benefits grades k-3.

Numerous panelists contributed to the three sessions and open discussions. The sessions were concerned with funding, where to get the money for special programs, and how to file the application. Implementation of the program covered such topics as program requirements and types, role of the director (each region has one) and living up to the terms under which program funds were granted.

The last session stressed the importance of parent involvement. They also have an important role to act as watchdogs and see that funds are spent on the program they were set aside for.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOP, given Thursday, December 18 at 3:00 P.M. at the Renaissance Board Room, was led by Rosemary Faitos, Doris Littlefield, and Laurel Gaines of Live Oak School. Parent involvement has reached an all-time high through 4 years of growth in this school which receives compensatory funding. Live Oak School is a k-3rd grade institution.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOP --- cont'd

Parents have power. At Live Oak, parents and teachers appealed to drop state testing of Kindergarten and 1st grade students. The appeal was granted. Parents pestered the teachers to provide "nutritional" snacks in the mornings for children, so Live Oak classrooms now provide yogurt, wholewheat bread and other healthful snacks. Parents are enthusiastic and show up in numbers of 5 or more in each classroom of 25 students. Live Oak School is definitely a paragon of parent participation and we are encouraged to visit or glean further information by contacting Live Oak School, 475-20(

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DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE met Thursday, December 18 at 7:30 P.M. at the Renaissance School. A new agency represented on the DAC is Legal Services. Representatives answer our legal questions and provide a judicious viewpoint. It was decided to send DAC members to workshops in San Jose and Monterey during the month of January. Each school is urged to send representatives to these workshops. Call Carole Jones, 724-05( for further information. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, December 15 at 7:30 P.M., Renaissance School Board Room. All are welcome to come and ent into discussions.

AROMAS 4-H GETS IT ALL TOGETHER!!! by LeAnn Smartt, 148 Dunbarton Road, Watsonvill

The Aromas 4-H met December 5, 1975. Plans for the Christmas party are to include a hayride and caroling. There will be a bake sale in frot of the store in Aromas on December 20 and money will go to our "adopted" child in Taiwan.

There will be a square dance in January.

Reports were given by Kenny Waag, Patty King, Mrs. Sherry Clark, Kelly Tidwell, Chris Clark, LeAnn Smartt, Kim Justus, and Patty McCandless. The program ended with a scavenger hunt and refreshments were candy apples and upside down cake made by Lisa Haas and Becky Waag.

FIRE DISTRICT by Francine Carroll, 306 Bardue, Aromas

Resignation of Fire Chief Tom Henry has precipitated renewed consideration of contracting the management and maintenance of the Aromas Tri-County Fire District to the State Division of Forestry. A special meeting of the Fire District Board of Commissioners was held December 15, 1975, to discuss the ramifacations of this proposal.

Dick Ernest of the State Division of Forestry presented a detailed explanation of contract services and a proposed budget to the assembled commission and several dozen interested citizens. The budget covers all costs of staffing and maintaining the Fire District and falls within present funding capability. Major features of the proposal are: services of a Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, and Battalion Chief (salaries paid by Division of Forestry); maintenance contracts on all vehicles; fire fighters as state employees, with increase in work hours and pay; special training of fire fighters; services of back-up personnel and vehicles each and every time a fire or emergency call is received at the Aromas station.

After lengthy discussion, it was decided to table the proposal for further discussion at the next scheduled Fire Commission meeting, Wednesday, January 14, 1976. It is vital that interested residents attend this meeting to make their preferences known.

PARENTAL STRESS SERVICE: This is a 24 hour telephone number providing a listening ear for parents to let off steam as well as general information and referral service. There are twenty-five volunteers who offer friendship and parent support. If the caller wishes, there is free identification counseling of a short term, 4-8 weeks to help sort out needs and feelings. This is a non-profit, confidential organization. The telephone number for the two locations: 426-7322 (632 Soquel Ave. in Santa Cruz) and 722-1211 (Main Street in Watsonville).

AROMAS SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER has been changed from 724-0178 to 728-3166.

CABLE T.V._ by Francine Carroll, 306 Bardue, Aromas

Cable T.V. service is a possibility for Aromas. Falcon Enterprises, which holds the franchise for cable service in the Gilroy-Hollister area is willing to investigate installing facilities in Aromas if sufficient interest is shown. Rough estimates of cost per house are $20.00 for installation and $7.50 per month user fee.

Cable would enable valley residents to receive two PBS stations, a 24-hour station originating in San Jose, and several San Francisco station.

Within the next few weeks several Aromas residents will be going door to door asking individuals to sign a petition indicating interest in cable service. Signing of the petition is only an indication of interest; there is no obligation to use the service if it becomes available.

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THE SKY IN DECEMBER by John Sinacori, Carr Avenue, 724-1945

Among the many assets of the Aromas area are the dark and often clear night skies found here. For those who enjoy watching the Universe, the sky show is especially glorious now with the coming of the winter star groups, notably the Pleiades, Taurus and Orion. The parade of planets is in full swing also as the mighty Jupiter leads, followed by Mars and the ringed planet, Saturn, visible later in the evening.

During December, Mars reaches this years' minimum distance from the Earth, about 53 million miles. It will be brighter than the great star, Sirius, for about a week. Look for Jupiter high in the South at 7 P.M.. Mars is in Taurus, just below the star (B Tauri) that marks the bull's left-hand horn tip. This will be midway to the zenith in the Southeast also at 7 P.M. Saturn is currently in Gemini and more difficult to find since it resembles an inconspicuous star to the naked eye. If you can find the twins Castor and Pollux, Saturn is nearly in line with them and below. Here's another hint: at 10 P.M. it will be approximately where Mars was at 7 P.M. Use the moon as your guide; on the evening of the 18th it will be close to Mars, on the 21st, near Saturn.

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ASTRONOMY CLASS

The Astronomy class has been restructured to emphasize the observational aspect of the subject and to provide more relevant information to the participants who, up until now, have varied widely in age.

There will be more sessions planned but for fewer participants so as to allow more use of observing time and instruments. They will be held both at the Aromas School and at private homes and may extend well into the night or be held in full daylight.

The subject material will be more restricted and tuned more to the sky events at hand. For example, the winter star groups are approaching and four major planets are visible now so several sessions are planned to observe and study the Orion nebula and the oppositions of Mars and Saturn.

People of all ages are invited. Provisions will be made for the comfort of those who will attend the extended evening sessions. Watch for coming announcements in the AIR about times, subjects, and scheduling arrangements.

by John Sinacori

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EXTENDED LEARNING

Extended learning means anything which is not presently on the school curriculum. Parents, professionals, ardent hobbyists - call the Aromas School, 728-3611, to arrange small group sessions at your home or at the school during which you can provide practical working experience for students. Aromas School encourages community participation and urges you to share your interests with the children - perhaps the whole community!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

As a new resident of Aromas, I was appalled and angered to learn that our fire fighters are paid approximately $700.00 a month. This would be a meager salary for an unskilled laborer: to consider it just pay for men performing vital community services is outrageous. While these men are not called upon to provide the large-scale heroics inherent to city fire departments, they work selflessly to protect property and lives in our town. In recent conversations I have found these people to be representative of the community spirit and rural values I sought in moving to Aromas. It is shameful that their dedication is grossly unrecognized in terms of salary. I urge a restructuring of community priorities in order to reward these fine men with a salary which bears some relation to their services.

It is nothing short of ridiculous to bypass a 15¢ tax increase while fostering such economic inequities.

Francine Carroll
P.O. Box 691, Aromas

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SPORTS: BOBBIE BREWER, Aide to Mrs. Rodman's Kindergarten class, recently BOWLED A GAME OF 215!!!

AROMAS SCHOOL RECREATION by Stephanie Harlan

Aromas School is looking for a Football Coach for a 4th-6th grade team. The boys will be practicing after school, 3:10 to 4:00 several days a week. This is an excellent opportunity for a parent or high school student to help the boys of Aromas School. The students are very enthusiastic but they need a coach! Call 728-3611 if you are interested.

Aromas School is also looking for a Ping-Pong table. If you have one that you would like to donate or sell to the school, call Stephanie Harlan, 728-3611.

A six-week course in BELLY DANCING is being offered by the Division of Community Services of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District. The course, which begins January 7, 1976, will meet Wednesday evenings from 7-9 P.M. The fee is $20.00 and pre-registration is necessary at the Community Services Office, 165 Blackburn Street, Watsonville, 722-9231, Ext. 353 (afternoon) or at Aromas School (except holidays - December 24th and 25th).

The class will be taught by Mariana, a professional dancer with training in classical ballet and modern dance. She is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and will provide a variety of experiences for the participants of the class. Basic skills of Belly Dancing will be taught, as will an ethnic awareness of the Middle East culture. Live music will be provided by qualified musicians in later sessions of the class. Participants are encouraged to wear loose clothing, and bring finger cymbals, if possible. (They can be purchased at Gem Pac Mall, Beads and Things on Freedom Blvd. in Watsonville, or an import store or International Bazaar store. There is no age requirement for the class members. Mariana will also show the class how to make simple dancing costumes. Registration and fee are due by January 7, 1976.

CLASSROOM NEEDS AND NEWS

Mrs. Donna Long's 1st and 2nd grade classroom is in need of a small area rug. Please call Aromas School, 728-3611, if you have one to offer.

During the course of our conversation, Donna confided she is with child. The Long's have an 11-year-old and now the new baby to be born in July. Warm congratulations, Don

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS:

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE at the Adobe Kitchen on Carpenteria. Lovely ceramics for gifts. Other handiwork welcome. Call Pat Jenks, 728-2121.

CUB SCOUT CHRISTMAS PARTY on Friday, December 19 at 7 P.M. in the Aromas School Cafeteria.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE-LITE SERVICE. Community Baptist Church at 7 P.M.

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION - CHILDREN'S FILM. The Community Baptist Church is having a potluck smorgasbord at 7 P.M. New Year's Eve and at 8:00 Walt Disney's RASCAL will be shown. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS TREES: Dale Andrews has Douglas Firs $6.00 and Scotch Pines $7.00, Rea Road, 722-9520.

VACATION for the Christmas Holidays is December 22 through January 2. We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a joyful holiday. School will resume on Monday, January 1976. (by Duane Peterson, Principal, Aromas School)

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NEED A 10 CU. FT. FREEZER? Paul Newell would like to trade for something smaller, say 4 cu. ft. Call him at 722-1594.

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"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD"

The world is now confusion bound
For what man hears the small, sure sound
Of stillness in the fallen snow
In Bethlehem long years ago?

Who turns within on Christmas eve
To find the peace that God did breathe
Upon that dry and barren plain
In Palestine in Herod's reign?

A peace that can transcend the night
And lift the soul above the sight
Of harried sheep who, lost, would strive
To keep the noise of pride alive.

Yes, now, my friends, we must begin
To build new lives amidst the din
And with the help of those above
Restore the world through God's great love.

Josh Jossi, Carmel, California

As much as lieth in you,
live peaceably with all men.
Romans 12:18

The light that shines from the humble manger is strong enough to lighten our way to the end of our days.
Author Unknown

The holiest of all holidays are those kept by ourselves in silence and apart, the secret anniversaries of the heart, when the full tide of feeling overflows.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmastime, when its mighty founder was a child Himself.
Charles Dickens

JOY is the holy fire that keeps our purpose warm and our intelligence aglow.
Helen Keller

THE AIR WISHES YOU ALL A WHOLLY HOLY HOLIDAY.